

TOWN OF DAVIE

TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM/PHONE: Shirley Taylor-Prakelt, Director
Housing & Community Development, 797-1199

SUBJECT: Resolution Urging Congress to Preserve the CDBG Program

COUNCIL DISTRICT: Townwide

TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM: A Resolution urging Congress to preserve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program within the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and provide a FY 2006 funding level of at least \$4.7 billion overall, with no less than \$4.35 billion in formula funding for the CDBG Program.

REPORT IN BRIEF: The Town of Davie is an entitlement recipient of federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Town receives \$764,000+- annually for: neighborhood revitalization programs, self-sufficiency and social service programs, infrastructure improvements, public facilities (e.g. the new Rick and Rita Case Boys & Girls Club), homeless prevention, programs for at-risk youth, elimination of slums and blight, crime prevention, upgrading the existing housing stock, as well as numerous affordable housing projects and initiatives.

The Presidents proposed FY06 budget eliminates the CDBG Program, and creates a smaller program within the Department of Commerce that will focus mainly on economic development rather than neighborhood improvements and quality of life programs for our lower-income and minority residents.

Many have characterized the CDBG Program as the best federal domestic program ever enacted, because of its flexibility and adaptability in meeting the diverse needs of individual communities throughout the Country. Nationwide, the CDBG Program leverages other funds, both public and private, by a ration of 3:1; however, we are proud that Davie's CDBG Program averages a leverage ratio of 4:1. Additionally, the CDBG Program improves local economies. In FY 2004 alone, CDBG assisted over 23 million persons and households nation-wide, who are now self-sufficient and contributing back to their local community. In fact, according to HUD, more than 78,000 jobs were created by the CDBG in FY 2004 alone.

If the CDBG Program were eliminated, Davie residents would lose the essential programs and services currently provided by the Housing and Community Development Department, as there are insufficient local funds to replace these indispensable Federal grant funds.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS: None Required

CONCURRENCES: None Required

FISCAL IMPACT: The Town would lose \$764,000+- annually; and, the loss of these funds would be detrimental to the Town, and Davie's lower-income, minority, and at-risk residents.

RECOMMENDATION(S): Adopt the Resolution.

Attachment(s): Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF DAVIE, FLORIDA, URGING CONGRESS TO PRESERVE THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD), AND PROVIDE A FY 2006 FUNDING LEVEL OF AT LEAST \$4.7 BILLION OVERALL, WITH NO LESS THAN 4.35 BILLION IN FORMULA FUNDING FOR THE CDBG PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program was created in 1974 to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities for low and moderate income families and individuals; and

WHEREAS the Town of Davie became an entitlement recipient of CDBG funds in 1997, and has successfully undertaken: neighborhood revitalization programs, self-sufficiency and social service programs, infrastructure improvements, public facilities, homeless prevention, programs for at-risk youth, crime prevention, upgrading the existing housing stock, as well as numerous affordable housing projects and initiatives which contribute back to our tax base; and

WHEREAS, throughout its 30-year history, the CDBG program has been a partnership among the federal, state and local governments, business, and the non-profit sector to carry out activities that improve the lives and neighborhoods of low and moderate income families; and

WHEREAS, the Town successfully uses its CDBG funds to leverage other funds both public and private at a rate of \$4 dollars for each CDBG dollar invested, to improve targeted areas and enhance the quality of life for Davie residents; and

WHEREAS, the President's proposed budget eliminates the CDBG Program, and creates a smaller program within the Department of Commerce that will focus mainly on economic development rather than neighborhood improvements and quality of life programs for our lower-income and minority residents; and

WHEREAS, the rapid growth of new entitlement jurisdictions nation-wide who are eligible to receive CDBG funds, has already strained the existing CDBG budget, causing funds to dwindle at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Program has thrived for over 30 years, because it is the most successful, tangible, and measurable domestic program, whose flexibility and adaptability allows each community to tailor the program to meet their individual needs and diverse populations; and,

WHEREAS, Davie's CDBG Program averages a leverage ratio of 4:1; and, if the CDBG Program were eliminated, Davie residents would lose essential programs and services since local

funds are not available to replace these indispensable grant funds.**WHEREAS**, in 1997 the Town of Davie became an “entitlement” recipient of Federal Funds from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Program has strengthened America’s communities by providing affordable and accessible housing, neighborhood revitalization programs, infrastructure improvements, new or enhanced public facilities, economic development and self-sufficiency initiatives, and other public service programs that enhance the quality of life for low-income and minority residents; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Program has an established system that leverages 3:1 in private funding, and THE Town has been successful in leveraging both public and private funds to expand the level of services to Davie residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Davie hereby urges Congress to preserve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program within the Department of Housing and Urban Development and provide a FY 2006 funding of a least \$4.7 billion overall, with no less than \$4.35 billion in formula funding for the CDBG Program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2005.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER

ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2005

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